

# THE COLONNADE

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gcsucolonnade.com

## Report- ed rapes triple

**Lindsay Stevens**  
*New Editor*  
&  
**Meghan Lindstrom**  
*Contributing Writer*

Rapes reported on West and Main campuses increased from two in 2016 to six in 2017, but GC officials attribute the spike to better reporting, not necessarily an uptick in sexual assaults.

GC reported six rapes on Oct. 1 in its 2017 Clery Act report. GC Public Safety Chief Don Challis and Sgt. Michael Baker cited multiple factors that may have contributed to increased reporting.

"The party culture could be part of it, the #MeToo movement could be part of it, and it could be people understanding the process does work," Challis said. "I don't think we're in a position based on the small sample size to say in our opinion it is be

See **Rape** Page 4



Caroline Duckworth / Copy Editor

Abrams visited Milledgeville Oct. 15 on her "We Are Georgia" tour

## 'We are Georgia': Stacey Abrams visits Milly

**Caroline Duckworth**  
*Copy Editor*

A crowd of about three hundred gathered next to the Allen's Market building on West McIntosh Street under the bright afternoon sun. People filled the chairs provided and spilled across the pavement of the parking lot, holding paper fans to block the sun from their eyes, murmuring to

one another in anticipation of the Democratic rally about to start. Blue signs printed with "Stacey Abrams" in a bold white font waved in the air.

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Stacey Abrams visited Milledgeville on Monday, Oct. 15 as a part of her "We are Georgia" Bus Tour. During this tour, Abrams and her campaign have made stops across the state of Georgia, from Macon to Valdosta, Columbus to Milledgeville. As she meets voters face-to-face,

Abrams hopes to rally her supporters to vote early and to share her plans for education, health care and the economy.

The first speaker of the evening was GC junior Matt Krack, a political science major, who serves as an intern on her communications team at her Atlanta HQ office.

When asked why he wanted to work for Stacey Abrams, Krack said

See **Abrams Rally** Page 2

## Kemp putting Georgians first with 4-point plan

**Miya Banks**  
*Staff Writer*

On Saturday, July 14, just weeks before the end of the primaries, Republican candidate Brian Kemp stopped in Milledgeville on his bus tour to address his four-point plan and speak with locals one-on-one.

GC was out of session, and most students had returned home for the summer, but an estimated 100 people attended the rally, which took place in the Baldwin County Courthouse parking lot.

The introductions were made by current state Rep., Rick Williams, and former state Rep. Rusty Kidd, both of whom have known Kemp for years.

Kemp spoke on his four-point plan and on topics like education and the prison system.

"When he was here, he detailed his four-point plan, which is making Georgia No. 1 for small business, reforming state government, strengthening rural Georgia and putting Georgians first," said Logan Blackwell, chairman of GC's chapter of College Republicans.

Rep. Williams said one of Kemp's goals is to ensure jobs for everyone in Georgia, mean-

ing that Kemp intends to give attention to rural Georgia, where it's tougher to make a living, rather than only stimulate growth in metro Atlanta.

"What he also told me is the respect he has for our school teachers," said Rep. Williams. "And we need to cut through some of the red tape and allow those teachers, who are trained to teach, to let them teach."

Rep. Williams said teachers are swamped with bureaucracy and need to be allowed to do more of what they are trained for.

"When you send a surgeon through med school, and they get out, and they're practicing surgery; they don't necessarily need to be doing as much paperwork," Williams said, using surgeons as an example. "These school teachers are trained, skilled surgeons, and they passed all of these tests, and we've got to promote them. Brian Kemp is behind our teachers and our educators in our high schools."

Rusty Kidd described the rally as festive and upbeat, a sentiment Rep. Williams held as well.

"It was very festive, and people were glad to be able to meet Brian one-

See **Kemp Rally** Page 2

## Know thy self and thy candidates: election education

**Amy Lynn McDonald**  
*Asst. News Editor*

The idea of knowing oneself was esteemed by the ancient Greeks as the height of wisdom, and as the Nov. 6 election deadline quickly approaches, it's time for voters to know their beliefs, values and their electoral candidates.

"You have to compare your values and thoughts to the [candidate's] platform actionables and the mission of the platform," said senior management major Logan Blackwell, chairman of the College Republicans of GC.

Platform actionables are the actions the candidate plans to take, including initiatives and legislations.

Steve Elliott-Gower, associate professor of political science and director of the Honors Program, cautions students against being caught up

in the editorialization and polarization that some news sources—especially cable news—create.

"Students should understand where the information is coming from and understand the credibility of the sources," Elliott-Gower said.

The most direct source for information on candidates' platforms is their websites, usually found with a quick online search of the candidate's name.

Both gubernatorial candidates list their platforms and goals by topic on their sites.

Trent Nicholas, president of Young Democrats of GC, a junior political science major, encourages student voters to find a topic they are interested in because he believes people are more inclined to be informed on issues they care about.

"If you spend enough time researching one policy, it will bring you into being more informed on other policies as well," Nicholas



Amy Lynn McDonald / Assistant News Editor

ADP campaign buttons

said. "So find something that interests you, and get involved from there."

Researching topics with strong political ramifications can lead students to sources well-regarded and informative like the Economist, Washington Post or New York Times.

GC students have unlimited access to the New York Times through their free GC subscription.

These sources have

been covering some of the heated gubernatorial race in Georgia, but for more local information, the Atlanta-Journal Constitution offers closer coverage of the gubernatorial race and congressional races in the metro-Atlanta area, alongside profiles of candidates and editorials.

"If you want to be truly informed, avoid highly partisan sources, on both sides of the political spec-

trum," Elliott-Gower said.

These partisan sources often employ mudslinging tactics, meaning campaigns or political action committees will attack a candidate's character or personal life in an effort to deter voters from supporting them.

Understanding the nature of modern political campaigns can help young voters wade through a slew of vengeful advertisements.

"Students should be aware of and sensitive to politicians taking one another's comments out of context or twisting their words," Elliott-Gower said.

Other ways to fact-check information is to inquire into figures presented in advertisements or arguments.

Examining how the data was collected and by whom can lead to a better understand of the accuracy of the conclusion being presented.

These tactics are often used in toss-up races.

However, there are many close races that are not being covered as heavily as the gubernatorial race or even congressional races.

"The big thing to remember is that you aren't just voting for [governor]," said Ruby Zimmerman, president of the American Democracy Project and a political science/rhetoric major. "You are voting all the way down the ticket from lieutenant governor [to] secretary of state and commissioners, and all these positions are extremely vital. [Voters] are choosing who we want to run the state."



Scan to go to  
[vote411.org](https://vote411.org)

### NEWS



#### LEARN ABOUT KEMP AND ABRAMS

Learn about Stacey Abrams' and Brian Kemp's policies.

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### SPORTS



#### ATHLETE'S TATTOO INSPIRATION

A deeper look into GC soccer players many tattoos.

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### ARTS & LIFE



#### THE HAUNTING OF SANFORD

Mystery surrounds the alleged suicide of a young woman on the third floor of Sanford Hall.

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NEWS

Kemp Rally

on-one and to realize he’s the real deal,” Williams said. “He’s the same guy they’ve seen on TV and heard in ads, so the atmosphere was very happy.” Kemp is a personable man who took the time to meet locals one-on-one to discuss their thoughts and concerns. “He was able to go around and talk to anybody who wanted to talk to him,” Kidd said. “That’s one of his fortes, is he’s a southerner. He’s kind of a country boy, so to speak, and he likes to hear what everybody has to say from all walks of life.”

Abrams Rally

that she is not afraid to stand up for progressive values and speak about the issues that matter to Georgian Democrats. “Stacey Abrams is one of those candidates you can be proud to work for,” Krack said. “In today’s political landscape, too often people are finding themselves let down by politicians whose public personas did not line up with reality. Georgians do not have to worry about Leader Abrams. She is the most qualified, intelligent and hardworking candidate in this race for governor.” Milledgeville’s own Mayor Mary Parham-Copelan introduced Abrams as an advocate, a protector and a defender for Georgians. “She represents what civil service is designed to be, service for a better community for all,” Parham-Copelan said, of Abrams. If elected, Abrams would become the first African-American wom-

an to be elected governor of Georgia. Parham-Copelan herself made history when she was elected Milledgeville’s first woman mayor. “She can be called many other names, but let me tell you what else I call her,” Parham-Copelan said. “I call her the next governor of this great state.” The crowd broke out into applause and cheers, the few in chairs standing, as Abrams walked in front of the podium. “We are 22 days away from victory in the state of Georgia,” Abrams said, her voice ringing clearly over the diverse crowd. “We are 22 days from changing the future of the state of Georgia.” GC senior Heidi Schureck, an art and liberal studies double major, said that the rally was quite memorable. “She has wonderful policies on public education, recognizing mental health and gun safety,” Schureck said. “The levels of inclusivity shown within each policy especially draw me to her campaign. As a queer woman, I appreciate her positive acknowledgement of the

“We recently volunteered at a fundraiser for the Kemp campaign, on Sept. 30 in Eatonton,” Blackwell said. “And what we did there was we served as parking crew, we wrote name tags for attendees and we passed out water bottles.” In April, College Republicans had 17 members. Now the number has grown to 101, Blackwell said. “We [College Republicans] meet weekly on Thursdays in Atkinson 107, and we are always accepting new people,” Blackwell said. He encouraged anyone who is interested to reach out to him via email, at logan.blackwell@bobcats.gcsu.edu.

LGBTQ+ community.” Along with explaining her plans for Georgia, Abrams urged the crowd get as many people as possible to go vote. She said to go around town, talk to people you might not normally speak to and encourage them to come with you to vote. Offer them a ride—even if they plan to vote for her opposition, Republican Brian Kemp. “But say it quietly,” Abrams added with a laugh. To rally-goers like Schureck, this dedication to true democracy is inspiring. When asked why college students should be involved in the political process, Schureck said that it is a process everyone should be involved in. “We have the power to vote,” Schureck said. “We cannot push politics under the rug because it makes people uncomfortable. The political is personal, and we have to keep in mind those who are impacted, as well as our own privilege. We have a responsibility to engage.”

THIS WEEK IN

GC HISTORY

ELECTION EDITION

Nov. 11, 1946

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS HELD A MEMBERSHIP DRIVE AT GCSW. THESE WOMEN WERE THE YOUNGEST IN THE NATION TO BECOME FULL MEMBERS OF LEAGUE, AS GEORGIA WAS THE ONLY STATE TO ALLOW 18-YEAR-OLDS TO VOTE, AND THE CHAPTER AT GSCW WAS THE FIRST IN THE STATE.

October 1952

THE PLATFORM OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY INCLUDED A CLAUSE ABOUT REMOVING COMMUNISTS FROM THE PARTY. THIS MOVEMENT, FELT NATIONALLY, WOULD LATER BE CALLED “MCCARTHYISM.”

November 1956

WOMEN AT GCSW WERE ENCOURAGED TO VOTE IN THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, WHERE DWIGHT “IKE” EISENHOWER RAN AGAINST OPPONENT ADLAI STEVENSON. A MAJORITY OF WOMEN ON CAMPUS REPORTED VOTING FOR EISENHOWER, EVEN THOUGH STEVENSON WON THE STATE OF GEORGIA OVERALL.

October 2011

MILLEDGEVILLE BUSINESS OWNER AND ADJUNCT GC PROFESSOR, JEFF BLOCK, WAS ON THE TICKET FOR THE 2012 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. HE WAS A SELF-PROCLAIMED “APOLITICAL”, AND RAN ON A PLATFORM OF CHANGING THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH TO THREE PRESIDENTS AND REWRITING THE CONSTITUTION.

Rachael Alesia / Graphic Designer

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Join us for pitch meetings every Monday night at 6:30 p.m. in MSU 128.

If you can’t make it, but still want to get involved, email thegcsu-colonnade@gmail.com to contact the staff!

JOIN US FOR PITCH MEETINGS IN MSU 128!

Monday, Aug. 20 | Monday, Aug. 27  
Tuesday, Sept. 4 | Monday, Sept. 10  
Monday, Sept. 17 | Monday, Sept. 24  
Monday, Oct. 1 | Monday, Oct. 15  
Monday, Oct. 29 | Monday, Nov. 5  
Monday, Nov. 26

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**\*All Opinion columns are the opinion of the columnist, not of The Colonnade.**

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NEWS

Mississippi-raised, Georgia-grown

Lindsay Stevens  
News Editor

Mississippi-raised and Georgia-grown Stacey Abrams is currently running to be the first black female Governor in this history of the U.S. Abrams was raised with her five siblings in Gulfport, Mississippi, where her parents struggled to make ends meet. However, Abrams says her parents still raised her and her siblings with the sentiment that if someone was less fortunate, it was their job to serve them. Abrams and her siblings were raised on three tenets: go to church, go to school and take care of each other. As a teen, Abrams' her family moved to Atlanta so her parents could go to graduate school and become Methodist ministers. At age 17, Abrams was hired as a

speech writer before going to Spelman College, where she received a Bachelor's of Arts in political science, economics and sociology in 1995. Afterward, in 1998, Abrams was a Harry S. Truman scholar at the University of Texas at Austin. She attended the LBJ School of Public Affairs and earned her Master's of public affairs. Then, in 1999 Abrams received her Juris Doctorate from Yale Law School. Abrams has been a tax attorney with a focus in tax-exempted organizations, healthcare and public principal at Sutherland Asbill & Brennan

LLP. She was the co-founder and vice president of NOW Corp, a financial services firm. She also co-founded Nourish Inc., a beverage company with a focus on infants and toddlers. Abrams was also the CEO of Sage Works, a legal consulting firm with clients like the WNBA team, the Atlanta Dream. In her free time, Abrams has authored eight award-winning romantic suspense novels under the pen name Selena Montgomery. She has sold over 100,000 copies. Abrams joined the Georgia General Assembly in 2007 representing district 89, which

includes the city of Atlanta and part of Dekalb. She has been a trailblazer in her political career by being the first African American to lead the Georgia House of Representatives and the first woman to be a party leader in the Georgia General Assembly. During her time in the House, she has been on the Appropriations, Ethics, Judiciary non-civil, Rules, and Ways and Means committees. She was one of the leaders when it came to reforming the HOPE Scholarship, which she co-sponsored in 2011. Abrams founded the New Georgia Project, which submitted over 200,000 voter registrations for voters of color between 2014 and 2016. Abrams is a lifetime member of the Council on Foreign Relations and has received recognition from the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Asian Americans Advancing Justice (Georgia), the National Urban League, Emily's List and Planned Parenthood. She was also the 2012 Grand Champion of the Georgia National Fair Legislative Livestock Roundup.



STACEY  
ABRAMS  
FOR GOVERNOR

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- Affordable Housing Trust Fund
- Increase housing opportunities for those recently released from incarceration
- End veteran homelessness
- Support programs that will allow Georgians to afford homes

EDUCATION

- Bold Start Scholarship Program
- Fund public schools
- Prioritize safe schools and support child mental health awareness
- Expand HOPE and tuition-free tech. college

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

- Invest in renewable energy through Georgia Green Bank and other initiatives
- Ensure low-income communities are not disproportionately impacted by industry
- Expand public transportation and low emission vehicles

EQUAL RIGHTS

- Anti-discrimination laws to protect workers
- Work with registrations to protect against harassment
- Reform Georgia Commission on Equal Opportunity into the Georgia Commission on Human Rights

GUN SAFETY

- Common-Sense gun reform: universal background checks, repeal campus carry and extreme-risk protection order.
- Services for victims of domestic violence
- Investment in mental health services

HEALTH CARE

- Expand Medicaid and lower premiums
- Support a woman's right to choose
- More medical personnel in underserved areas
- Support for the elderly

JOBS, ECONOMY & INFRASTRUCTURE

- Georgia Earned Income Tax Credit
- Cradle to Career Savings Program
- Invest in infrastructure and education
- 22,000 apprenticeships by 2022

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

- Promote community policing that will build trust and keep communities safe
- Elimination of cash bail, fines rather than jail time for small amounts of marijuana and increased diversion and re-entry

MILITARY & VETERANS

- Transition from service to school and career
- End veteran homelessness
- Prevent base closure through investments in infrastructure and education
- Respect diversity of troops

VOTING RIGHTS & PUBLIC INTEGRITY

- Make voter registration easy and convenient through expanding online registration, automatic voter registration and same-day voter registration

AGING & DISABILITY

- Aging and Disability Centers and home community-based services
- Increase access to transportation
- Support caregivers and promote Alzheimer's research and awareness.
- Employment first strategies

FILM, ENTERTAINMENT & ARTS

- Resist RFRA
- Support tax credits to attract film and entertainment companies
- Improve access and funding for training programs
- STEAM education

FOR MORE INFO:  
WWW.STACEYABRAMS.COM

Lindsay Stevens / News Editor

KEMP  
GOVERNOR

MAKE GA NO. 1 FOR SMALL BUSINESS

Cut back on regulations

Work with small businesses to cut red tape to and streamline state government

Develop initiatives to meet job demands

REFORM STATE GOVERNMENT

Place a cap on state spending

Deliver real tax reform

Audit all tax breaks to protect tax payers

STRENGTHEN RURAL GA

Expand high speed internet access

Improve access to healthcare by protecting rural hospitals and recruiting physicians

Support farmers, agri-business and small town start ups

PUT GA FIRST

Crack down on gangs

Fully fund public school education and raise teacher pay

Lower healthcare premiums and prescription drug costs

Improve literacy with early childhood education

FOR MORE INFO:  
WWW.KEMPFORGVERNOR.COM

Lindsay Stevens / News Editor

Bulldawg with business experience

Lindsay Stevens  
News Editor

Secretary of State Brian Kemp is running for Governor on the platform of putting Georgians first. Kemp was born and raised in Athens, Georgia. He graduated from Clarke Central High School, and during his time there was a part of the state championship football team. Kemp says he learned the value of hard work and believing that the impossible is possible from his coach Billy Henderson. He graduated from UGA with a bachelor's in agriculture and started his own business, Kemp Properties, with just a pick-up truck and a shovel. Kemp is also the co-owner of Specialty Stone Supply. Kemp is married to his childhood friend Marty and is a father to three daughters, Jarrett, Lucy and Amy Porter. Kemp says he is a family man and is very active in his

home church, Emmanuel Episcopal Church. Kemp has been the Georgia Secretary of State since 2010. Before this, he was a state senator from 2002 to 2006 representing District 46, which contains all of Oconee County and parts of Walton and Clarke counties. During his time in office, Kemp has been the Secretary of the Agriculture and Consumer Affairs committee, the Vice Chair of the Higher Education Committee and the Chair of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee. He was also a part of the Appropriations, Comprehensive Land Use Plan for Athens-Clarke County, Transition Advisory and Waste Water Treatment advisory committees. As governor, Kemp said he plans to invest in education and protect Georgians from gang violence. He also plans to lower taxes and healthcare costs and will work to put high paying

jobs in all communities. As for public safety, Kemp will focus on ending sex trafficking and punish sex predators. He plans to dismantle gangs and shutdown cartels. Due to his wife, Marty Kemp, being a former Pre-K teacher, Kemp plans to support early childhood education, pay raises for teachers, local control and school choice. He will also stand with the Hope Scholarship. Kemp is running on the promise to stand up for the people and fight for Georgia families.



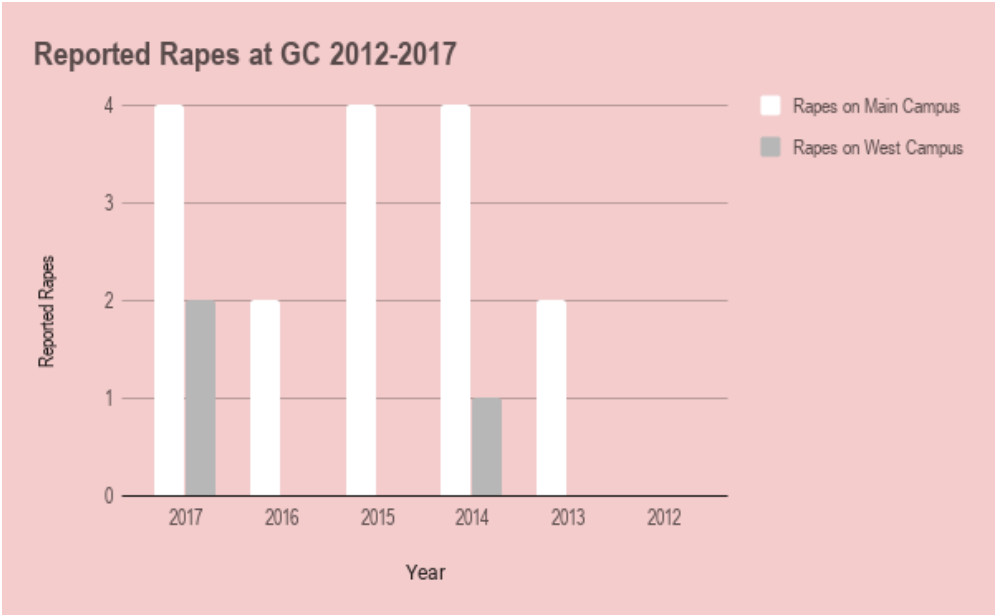
NEWS

Rape

Continued from page 1

cause of this. There's a lot of factors going on," Emily Brookshire, GC's victim services coordinator at the Women's Center, said that more than 20 GC students have confidentially reported sexual assault since Aug. 1. Unless the victim requests it, the Women's Center does not report these confidential allegations to GC Public Safety or Title IX. "Last year we served around 32 students who came in to discuss sexual assault," Brookshire said. "Potentially the way things are going, we could very well surpass that number in the first semester of school." Sexual assaults reported to the Women's Center tend to spike at certain times of the year such as the beginning of the year, during October's domestic violence awareness month and around the time students leave for Winter Break. The days and weeks after homecoming and after spring break also increase. According to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, 20-25 percent of college women and 15 percent of college men are sexually assaulted at some point during their time on campus. More than 90 percent of the victims do not report the rape.

Sgt. Baker attended a presentation put on by the Georgia Network to End Sexual Assault and was informed that very few perpetrators are actually convicted of rape. "It was like 1 percent were actually convicted of rape, and it's because it's hard to investigate," Baker said. "If you actually make an arrest do they always reach a trial? They don't. They reach a plea agreement or they go down because they're just very hard cases to prosecute or they're just exonerated of the charges because there wasn't enough proof." DNA evidence is crucial to solving a rape case. Challis and Baker explained that gathering DNA evidence rules out the defense that the defendant was not on the scene at the time of the crime. After the DNA proves the defendant's presence, Challis and Baker said the defense will argue the sexually contact was consensual. Neurological discoveries have mitigated the effectiveness of this defense. "You'll hear the defense say: 'Did you yell? Did you scream? Did you fight back,'" Challis said. "It is a real thing to just lock up. It's instinctive and a hard-wired mechanism. We're changing how we talk about the fight or flight system, and now we talk about the third thing. The catatonic paralysis. It's a real thing. I think we are seeing a shift in how these survivors



Lindsay Stevens / News Editor

vors are getting credible. Only eight out of 100 are made up, which means 92 aren't, so why would you go through this process." After a traumatic event, such as sexual assault, occurs, the brain tries to protect victims by having them forget what happened. GC Public Safety employs new techniques to help victims remember and file an accurate report. "If you are having a hard time remembering what happened, we might say: 'Tell me what you smelled, tell me what you saw, and these kinds of other senses,'" Challis said. "Our memories are tied to other things like taste. We want to wait two sleep cycles because things as your brains reset and recharge to help you remember things. We might ask you backwards. There are all kinds of things we are working on to stay current. We're going to be very good at what we do."

Another common defense was that the victim's story was out of order and didn't seem to make chronological sense. GC Public Safety said that judges are now explaining to jurors that though it is out of order, it is still valid. "It may seem out of order," Challis said. "How it can be explained is that you might have this big stack of sticky notes and they're all in order and they're all pushed back by the wind. They're all out of order and you have to work with the survivor to put them back in some kind of order and then correctly you get a pretty good idea of what happened." Even if the victim does not want to press charges as soon as possible in case they change their mind in the future. A rape kit is a sexual assault exam that retains DNA evidence. "It's important that we

understand this is the survivor's choice," Challis said. "We wanna make sure they're safe first and that they may get any counseling they need. That's our primary goal. But if we have the opportunity to hold somebody accountable we will do that." If a student needs help emotionally or physically the Women's Center is open for them 24/7. "Students can just walk in," Brookshire said. "They can definitely call or email and make an appointment, but if a student is in an emergency situation and they need an advocate, and they haven't been in contact with campus police or anything, they can call our 24/7 crisis line at 478-234-2788." The Women's Center also offers courses to help students become more aware of potentially threatening situations. Project BRAVE is taught at all freshman orientations,

but the center offers a longer, three-hour course for interested students. Ally trainings, what are these, help recognize signs of domestic abuse that might be more difficult to distinguish. One Love training focuses on relationship violence. "It's a national program now that's really amazing. It's about de-escalation and how we can work to spot relationship violence and how most of us can quickly turn a blind eye to it," Brookshire said. Madison Block, a junior nursing major, took the Project BRAVE training to educate herself on the signs of possible threats of sexual assault. "I have taken the course on the signs of what to look out for so I can better protect myself if I am ever in an unsafe situation," Block said. "I feel safer knowing I know the signs of sexual assault and can look for them." GC wants to encourage people to come forward and get the help they need. "I'm here to offer confidential support from anything from physical injury to emotional support to education for as long as you need it," Brookshire said. "This is something that will impact you for the rest of your life. We'll work on how we can work to promote healing so that it's not stopping your life or stopping you in your tracks. We can carry this trauma and grow and continue and feel whole in a different way."

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS AND REFERENDA RUNDOWN

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

- 1 LAND CONSERVATION, PARKS AND TRAILS**  
This amendment wants to set aside a portion of the taxes you already pay when you buy outdoor goods, such as fishing poles or binoculars, so the state can buy more public land and maintain the parks Georgia already has. This bill does not raise taxes.
- 2 BUSINESS COURTS**  
This bill proposes that a separate statewide business court. Supporters of this bill believe that it would allow businesses to get faster and more consistent verdicts. Critics of this bill do not like they way judges would be picked. The Governor would hand-select the judges, that would then be confirmed by the House and Senate.
- 3 TIMBER TAX**  
The Timber Tax allows the Georgia Department of Revenue to keep 5% of state grants given to counties to preserve forest lands to use for administrative costs.
- 4 CRIME VICTIM'S RIGHTS**  
Also referred to as Marsy's Law, this bill requires the state to notify victims before the hearings of those who harmed them. The state already has a victim's rights such as the right to be informed if a perpetrator has been let out of prison. It was originally adopted in South Dakota an has had unintended court-clogging consequences, however, Georgia's version will not require as much from the courts.
- 5 PROPERTY TAXES**  
This law would remove the requirement for city and county school districts to agree before calling for a referendum to raise a penny sales tax for education. This is because there are certain cases where an independent school district within the county has its own district, such as Atlanta's school system, which is independent, within Fulton County.

REFERENDUMS

- A LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX**  
Although this referendum only applies to the city of Atlanta, it will be on every ballot. The bill asks if Atlanta's annual property taxes should be capped at 2.6%.
- B TAX BREAK**  
This referendum is centered around a tax break available to nonprofit homes for people who have mental disabilities. This questions if a tax break should apply if a for-profit institution is financing the renovation or construction of a home.

THE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE PRESENTS  
Directed by Dr. Karen Berman, Choreographed by Amelia Pelton,  
Language Coached by Dr. Jennifer Flaherty, Music Composed by Dr. David Johnson,  
Vocal Coached by Dr. Dana Gorzelany-Mostak

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By Shakespeare

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10.25.2018

SPORTS

Men’s basketball team aims for winning season

Keegan Casteel  
Staff Writer

The GC men’s basketball team aims to be a competitive force this season with an abundance of new and returning talent that will allow them to pose a noticeable threat in the PBC rankings.

Having ended the 2017-18 season 11-17 and just missing out on a chance to compete in the PBC tournament, the Bobcats plan to bounce back with a positive mindset and a strong will to compete at the top.

“Last season was a learning year for the guys,” said head coach Mark Gainous. “We were relying on more freshman than we ever have since I’ve been apart of GC basketball. I appreciated that they hung in there and competed, and we still had the chance to make the tournament. It’s not easy to do that when you’re playing primarily freshmen and sophomores.”

The team ended their last season ranked No. 9 in the PBC. Gainous plans to utilize the team’s strong lineup of returners in addition to its newly acquired talent to secure a solid team that will set the precedent for seasons to come.

“I want to get back to being the best defensive team in the PBC like we were two seasons ago,” Gainous said. “We have a better shooting team this year, so hopefully if we’re able to make more shots and play better defense, then we’ll definitely be in



Courtesy of GC Sports Information

Issac Thomas attempts to block an inbound pass against Columbus State University in 2017

the competitive mix.”

In order to achieve the most success possible, the team decided to make slight changes to their style of play that differs from that of previous seasons.

“We’re planning to be more up-tempo this season, whereas the last couple of years we’ve had to play at a little bit slower pace,” Gainous said. “It’s going to be a lot like we played in 2015 and 2016 when we led the league in three-pointers. We want to play a little bit faster, shoot earlier in the clock and make more threes.”

In addition to the numerous returning players, the Bobcats picked up six freshmen and junior Colton Collins, a transfer student from Emmanuel College.

“Colton will be one of our best shooters because he’ll give us a consistent three-point threat,”

Gainous said. “I also really expect the freshmen to contribute this year, though we do plan to red-shirt a couple to help them develop more through the program.”

Preparing for his first season competing as a Bobcat, freshman guard Wesley Simpson said he expects the team to have a very successful year filled with conference wins and team bonding.

“We have our eyes on the NCAA tournament,” Simpson said. “With the success we’ve been having in the preseason, I know that’s achievable. I’m really looking forward to getting some team chemistry going and just getting involved with the guys.”

Notable returners include seniors Desmond Mitchell-LaFlam and Isaac Thomas, junior Kohl Roberts and sophomores Jordan Thomas, Chapin Rier-

son and Justin Cave.

“It’s a good feeling to know that we have around seven or eight starting players but can only start five,” Gainous said. “Our quality of depth is the best it’s been since I’ve been head coach.”

Thomas, who’s set to claim the title of all-time leading rebounder in PBC history, is eager to compete in his last season as a Bobcat and knows the team possesses the ability to obtain their anticipated success.

“Normally, it’s sometimes hard to predict what the season will be like, but we just have so many returners this year, so we’re very excited,” Thomas said. “We’re definitely going to run the ball more up and down the court and take more shots.”

The Bobcats’ home opener will be on Nov. 13 against Shorter University at 7 p.m.



Courtesy of GC Sports Information

Jordan Thomas sets up to shoot against Francis Marion University in Jan. 2017

Soccer player covers arms with inspiring tattoos

Alex Jones  
Sports Editor

Unnbjorg Omarsdottir, a senior on the GC women’s soccer team, traveled to America to continue her love for soccer, but soccer is not her only love. She also holds a great admiration for art, which she displays through the tattoos covering her arms.

Uno, a native of Iceland, has accumulated six tattoos and has had all of her ink work done in her home country.

“I’ve always loved tattoos since I was really young,” Uno said. “Every time I saw someone with tattoos, I would stare at them and think, ‘Those are really cool.’”

Uno’s tattoos all present a spe-

cial meaning, from her personality to events in her life that she has endured and encountered.

“My inspiration comes from what happens in my life,” Uno said.

Uno’s first tattoo was the Roman numeral for 18, her favorite number, on the outer wrist of her right arm. Her birthday is April 18, and has always worn the number 18 on the soccer pitch.

During the same session, Uno also received the Chinese lettering on her left arm that makes the sound of her name.

Uno said she is inspired by Japanese art and ties two of her tattoos to the passion she has from the culture of Japan.

Her left forearm has a tiger, and on her right upper arm, she sports a dragon.

“The tiger and

dragon represent the Yin and Yang in the Japanese culture,” said Uno. “The tiger is beneath, and the dragon is on top.”

Uno was inspired to get these symbols because of the meaning of balance represented by the Yin and Yang symbols.

Uno named her tattooed tiger Peaches, eventually tattooing the name below the animal. “The tiger is my power animal and my favorite,” Uno said. “I named it Peaches because of coming to the Peach State from Iceland.”

The tattoo most closely tied with Iceland is the wing on her left bicep that reads, “I will become what I know I am.” Uno received the wing when she graduated from her school in Iceland.

“In the end, I’ll know what I want

and what I want to be,” Uno said.

Uno did not sugar coat her response when explaining how badly getting her tattoos hurt.

“When I was getting my dragon done, it felt like they were drilling into my shoulder,” Uno said.

When getting her ink work done, Uno explained that the dragon took about five hours and the tiger took eight.

Uno expressed how she plans to finish her arms and complete her tattoo work with full arm sleeves. She wants to continue with tattoos inspired by Japanese culture, and she expressed other ideas that relate to her returning home safely to Iceland.

“I can’t wait to get more tattoos, but I promised my mom I wouldn’t get any more until I graduated,” Uno said.



Courtesy of Alex Jones

Unnbjorg Omarsdottir poses with her tattoos



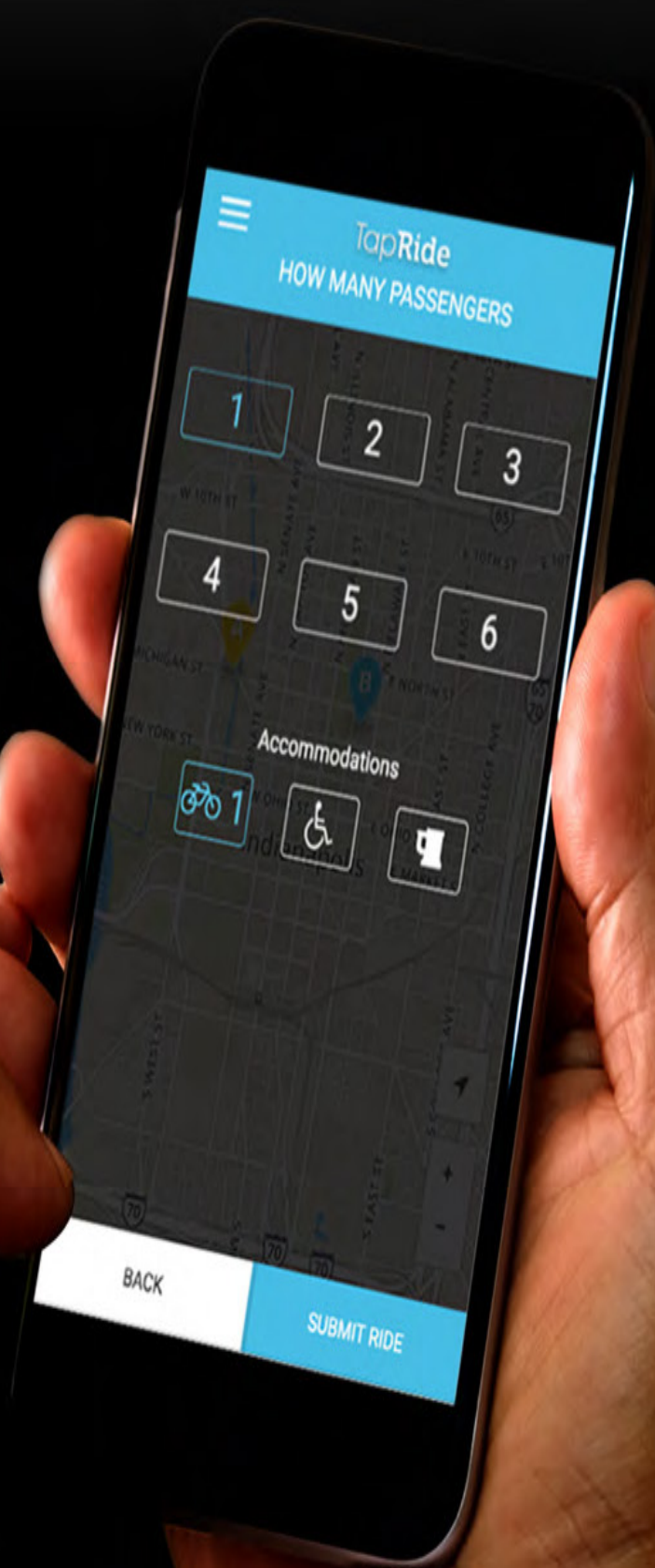
The lettering on Unnbjorg Omarsdottir’s lower left arm is her name sounded out in Chinese

Courtesy of Alex Jones

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ARTS & LIFE

Athens band redefines jam-rock



Maggie Waldmann / Asst. Arts & Life Editor

The Orange Constant performs at Buffington's on Oct. 18

Maggie Waldmann

Asst. Arts & Life Editor

The Orange Constant, an Athens-based band, performed a classic jam-rock show for the Buffington's night crowd on Thursday, Oct. 18. Originally formed in 2012 by Andrew Brantley and Nickalous Benson, the duo eventually grew into a full band with the additions of Tyler Walker, Chris Freiberg and Sam Groveman. The band released their debut album "Time to Go" in the summer of 2015 under the production of Grammy-nominated producer John Keane. Keane's previous work with Widespread Panic and R.E.M. qualifies him with notable credentials not only in the jam-band scene, but also in the roots of Athens music. Their reigns in the Classic City have seen no boundaries as they

now play shows all over the Southeast. Sam Groveman, the band's drummer, enjoys watching the group gain a wider range of popularity, but he still emphasizes the importance of staying true to their roots. "Obviously we want to get as big as we can without compromising who we are," Groveman said. The band's musical influences, such as My Morning Jacket, have also influenced their ideas surrounding who they want to be in terms of the classic-rock genre characteristics. "It's the cult following, like outside the classic jam band scene, [My Morning Jacket] have kinda eclipsed that," said Chris Freiberg, the band's keyboard player. "They are their own thing. They're kind of an anomaly of modern rock." They take inspiration from the distinct vocals of Jim James or the instrumental precision of

Bob Weir, but they are also influenced by the listeners and audience members they attract. "I like the idea of having this following kinda sticking with you and also getting these younger generations collectively," Groveman said. GC student Chandler Durden has been listening to the band since her first time seeing them live last April. "They definitely rival the sounds of other jam bands like Phish and Grateful Dead," Durden said. "I enjoyed seeing them a second time and I can't wait for them to come back." The band's show covered crowd-pleasing jams such as Grateful Dead's "Brown Eyed Woman," grabbing the attention of all ages in the audience. The group has continued touring around Georgia and neighboring states, sharing the stage with other up-and-coming artists like CBDB, The Vegabonds and Pi-

geons Playing Ping Pong. Working with other bands in the same genre has humbled the group as they learn how to achieve balance between their individual styles. "Individuality is huge," Freiberg said. "I think the band having its own sound, each of the members having their own sound and all the parts making a whole—the whole is greater than the parts." The band's latest release, the instrumental single "Prisoner Reprise," marks the beginnings of their work towards creating their third album, which will begin this November. Capturing the essence of the wide range of styles within their genre, The Orange Constant is a group to be reckoned with as they redefine the concepts of what it takes to be a jam band. Catch them at their next local show at the Georgia Theater in Athens on Oct. 20.

The last 'Rocky'

Ashley Wootton  
Contributing Writer

For now, it looks like Bobcats won't be doing the "Time-Warp" again. GC will perform "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" for the last time on Oct. 26 in Russell Auditorium. Due to the copyright fees increasing significantly, "Rocky" will have to go, but some students are holding on to the hope that it will return someday. Since 2006, GC has shown "Rocky" every year the weekend before Halloween. The night consists of crazy costumes, lots of glitter and some very catchy songs. But perhaps what makes this event so special is the "shadowcast," which acts out the movie playing on the screen behind them. The show is entirely student-run, and the cast has dubbed themselves the "Clarke Street Glitter Lips." Some cast members are returning veterans of the production, but others are first-time Rocky performers who look forward to being in this timeless show. "This cast has worked so hard to make every second of the show perfect and weird and hilarious, and it's just awesome to watch," said Christina Cortes, an Emcee or "Master of Ceremonies" for the show. "I'm most excited to even be a part of it." To the cast, "Rocky Horror" is much more

than just a performance. "Rocky" really focuses on friendship and having a team, and that really shows with [a] student-led and student-run production of 'Rocky' because we all have to work together," said stage manager Callie Langston. Langston said she wants the audience to leave the theater feeling shocked. This year's show features a surprising casting that makes the show even more unique. "This show is going to be bigger and badder than every other year," Langston said. "Our goal is to make it a 'Rocky' to remember—big hair, big makeup, big movements." The cast is working hard to secure a legacy for, possibly, the last ever GC "Rocky." "We have no choice but to leave it all on the stage," said Hannah Kate Mulanax, who plays a Transylvanian dancer. "We are doing everything larger-than-life, taking risks and performing this show so nobody forgets about the 'Clarke Street Glitter Lips.'" For many students, it will be strange not looking forward to Rocky every fall. But everyone can rest assured that this year will be an over-the-top, one-of-a-kind a night to remember. "With any luck, there will be a reemergence, but I can't say for certain," Langston said. Tickets cost \$7 and can be purchased online or with cash at the door.

Cultural appropriation is not appropriate

Ava Leone

Contributing Writer

On Halloween night, you may see people wearing sombreros decorated with brightly colored ribbons, headdresses adorned with feathers and cheap kimonos painted with intricate designs. When people wear Halloween costumes of stereotypes of other cultures, it is called cultural appropriation, and to affected minority groups, it matters. Cultural appropriation misrepresents cultures and undermines minority groups of various ethnicities, such as people of Native American, Latino, Chinese or various other descents. It is especially prevalent on Halloween, when people may dress up as an individual from another culture. "In terms of Halloween

costumes, the concept overall looks not just at stereotyping but also exploitation, to use elements of someone else's culture for profit or entertainment or pleasure, at the same time that those individuals in those groups are not treated with respect, with equality and with access to opportunity," said Stephanie McClure, a sociology professor. Large corporations like Walmart and CVS sell culturally exploitive Halloween costumes. Typing in "Indian costume" or "Mexican costume" into Walmart's search bar generates dozens of costumes choices. "Halloween is a holiday when people are allowed, and even encouraged, to be transgressive," said Bradley Koch, associate professor of sociology. "Otherwise 'good girls' are allowed to dress sexy;

guys are allowed to display their alter egos. It can be a lot of fun for many. Unfortunately, some take it as an excuse to do racism. Dressing up in blackface, for example, is never OK." Koch said students should encourage and educate each other to wear respectful Halloween costumes. Student organizations, fraternities and sororities can reject those who misrepresent cultures such as Mexicans, Arabs and Asians. Stacey Hurt-Milner, director of the GC Cultural Center, recommends students watch "My Culture is not a Costume" and "Cultural Appropriation Explored" on YouTube to gain a more in-depth understanding of cultural appropriation. The videos get to the heart of why people should not utilize cultural identities as costumes. "It is not just a cos-

tume, as you are stripping away the pains that minorities go through and turning it into a joke," said senior Serena Odeh, a special education major working for the Office of Inclusive Excellence as a diversity peer educator. Odeh said that cultural appropriation desensitizes society to misrepresentations and being the joke of the party. She said students can raise awareness by doing personal research. If people choose to represent a culture on Halloween, they should do so accurately and respectfully. Wearing elements from other cultures is not always considered appropriation, but drawing that line can be difficult. "Cultural appropriation comes from a colonization mindset and the taking of a culture by someone without



Photos courtesy of Ava Leone

Cultural costumes sold at CVS in Milledgeville

background knowledge," said Melissa Gerrior, program coordinator at GC's Women's Center. "Cultural exchange pertains to someone of a specific culture coming to others to help them understand." Hurt-Milner said CAs,

fraternities and sororities are creating programs to inform students about cultural appropriation, such as social awareness presentations at chapter. They hope to cut down the use of offensive Halloween costumes this fall.

ARTS & LIFE

Cookie: The ghost of Sanford Hall’s past

Brendan Borders  
Staff Writer

Some students may not know that behind the quaint rocking chairs on the porch Sanford Hall, the quaint, brick residence hall on campus, hides a grisly history. Some say that the ghost of Cookie, the affectionate nickname given to Betty Jean Cook by classmates at the Georgia State College for Women, haunts the residence hall many students come to call home for their school year.

“We would close it [our closet doors] and sometimes they would lock and sometimes we would come back and they were open,” said Hannah Kate Mulanax, a sophomore outdoor education major who lived in Sanford as a freshman. “We were laying on the floor doing homework, and we heard a woman singing, [which] was interesting because we were the only women on our floor.”

Some residents on the second floor of Sanford Hall report hearing footsteps and sounds above their heads, while they were residents on the second floor.

Cook attended the Georgia State College for Women from 1948 to 1952 when she allegedly committed suicide.

In a 1950s yearbook, Cookie is photographed wearing equestrian gear, indicating that she was probably on the equestrian team. Other records show that Cookie suffered from back pain, which some have speculated came from falling off of a horse. The pain caused her to feel trapped in her own body, and some speculate that it is the reason Cookie committed suicide.

In addition to the equestrian team, Cookie was largely involved in the Department of Theatre and Dance, serving as president of the theatre sorority Alpha Psi Omega while holding leadership roles in other clubs across campus. She was a biology major with plans to attend medical school.

Cook also made the Dean’s list a few times during her time at GSCW and was considered very popular among students.

Special Collections Graduate Assistant Jessica Mcquain speculates that Cookie’s death was a murder, not a suicide. She said that she believes that Cookie could have been



Brendan Borders / Staff Writer

“Look behind you,” and “Keep out” are still painted on the walls of Sanford’s third floor as of August

murdered in 1952. When Cookie was found, she had cuts on her arms, elbows and neck, and that if one area had already been cut, she would not have had the strength to make the other cuts, opening the possibility of murder. Cookie was also reported to have a boyfriend, who was away at the

cut her wrists, Mcquain infers that she would not have the strength to cut her elbows or neck after. Mcquain also mentioned lights randomly turning off, hearing noises and creaks from the empty floor above her. Her closet door seemed to lock itself numerous times. Mulanax said that she

went off, except for when they went into the room where Cookie allegedly committed suicide. “We went into Cookie’s room and we asked her a bunch of questions, and said touch it for ‘yes’ or don’t touch it for ‘no,’” Butera said. “She said that they asked a bunch of questions but nothing happened, and then one girl asked ‘Do you regret killing yourself?’ and the thing [device] started going of like crazy, lighting up and beeping. It was really sad.”

Harold Mock, director of Leadership Programs and assistant professor of history, was a former resident and Community Advisor at Sanford, said that many people in the ‘50s viewed suicide as a moral failure.

Mock said that during the ‘50s, the senior residence hall was Ennis Hall, but the building could not accommodate all of them, and a few seniors, including Cookie, lived at Sanford Hall with underclassmen. He said that Sanford was located near Nesbitt Woods which was essentially like living off campus in a building in the woods, and could have been alienating.

Mock also said that students at school were under “In Loco Parentis” which is Latin for “in place of the parent”, and this was a legal responsibility held by the college president, and enforced by dorm mothers. Students couldn’t leave campus when they wanted to, and couldn’t have visitors without written permission from higher powers. Because of this, Mock explained that life in the residence halls was much different and formed more of a com-



Courtesy of GC Special Collections

Cookie's yearbook photo in 1951.

munity among the girls.

He said that when Cookie allegedly committed suicide, the effect of this action was felt powerfully across the GSCW campus, because the system in place had essentially failed.

The most commonly accepted story is that Cookie had carried a mattress to the third floor, which was still accessible but not used, and would sit alone and self harm, out of the view of friends and roommates.

On April 5, 1952, during the Pilgrimage tour and Pageant, a local event, Cookie made a mistake while self harming and cut too deep. She lost lots of blood quickly, and was found bleeding and in shock by friends who called emergency services. Cookie was carried out of the building and was reported to have said “Don’t let me die,” but when she arrived at the hospital, she had lost too much blood, and died on the operating table.



Courtesy of GC Special Collections

Graffiti covers the third floor of Sanford